

CLAIMS

1. Use of an inulin-type fructan for the manufacture of a cosmetic rinse-off composition for the treatment of the hair and/or the skin, characterised in that the rinse-off composition, apart from conventional ingredients of rinse-off compositions in conventional amounts, comprises from 0.10 to 10% of the inulin-type fructan (% in weight percent dry matter, calculated on the total weight of the rinse-off composition), and is free from (i) cationic polymeric conditioning agents, (ii) terpolymers composed of a monomer consisting of a carboxylic acid containing an α,β -mono-ethylenic unsaturation, a non-ionic monomer bearing a urethane group, and a non-surfactant monomer with mono-ethylenic unsaturation which is different from the first mentioned monomer, (hereinafter "terpolymers"), and (iii) polysaccharides that are different from inulin-type fructan.

2. Use according to claim 1, characterised in that the rinse-off composition is also free from monosaccharides and from di- and oligosaccharides that are different from inulin-type fructan, apart from the mono- and disaccharides that naturally occur in inulin-type fructan.

3. Use according to claim 1 or claim 2, characterised in that the inulin-type fructan is used as conditioning agent.

4. Use according to any one of claims 1 to 3, characterised in that the inulin-type fructan is used as a complete substitute for cationic polymeric conditioning agents in conventional rinse-off compositions.

5. Use according to anyone of claims 1 to 4, characterised in that the rinse-off composition contains the inulin-type fructan at a concentration from 0.5 to 5%.

6. Use according to anyone of claims 1 to 5, characterised in that the inulin-type fructan is oligofructose.

7. Use according to claim 6, characterised in that the oligofructose has a DP ranging from 2 to 9.

8. Use according to claim 6, characterised in that the oligofructose as a DP ranging from 3 to 5.

9. Use according to anyone of claims 1 to 5, characterised in that the inulin-type fructan is inulin.

5 10. Use according to claim 9, characterised in that the inulin has a DP ranging from 2 to 100.

11. Use according to claim 9, characterised in that the inulin-type fructan is chicory inulin with a DP ranging from 2 to 70.

10 12. Use according to claim 9, characterised in that the inulin-type fructan is inulin from agave, Jerusalem artichoke or dahlia.

13. Process for the manufacture of a cosmetic rinse-off composition, characterised in that 0.10% to 10% weight
15 (calculated on the total weight of the rinse-off composition) of an inulin-type fructan defined in anyone of claims 1 and 6 to 12, water and one or more other components constituted by one or more ingredients in conventional amounts of
conventional rinse-off compositions, with the exception of
20 (i) cationic polymeric conditioning agents, (ii) terpolymers as defined in claim 1, and (iii) polysaccharides that are different from inulin-type fructan, are co-mixed.

14. Process according to claim 13, characterised in that
neither the inulin-type fructan component nor said other
25 components include monosaccharides or di- and oligosaccharides that are different from inulin-type fructan, apart from the mono- and disaccharides that naturally occur in inulin-type fructan.

15. Process according to claim 13 or claim 14, characterised
30 in that it involves co-mixing of one or more components or part of said components with one or more premix compositions that contain the remaining components and/or the complementary part of the former components, or co-mixing of two or more pre-mix compositions.

16. Cosmetic rinse-off composition, characterised in that it contains from 0.10% to 10% weight (calculated on the total weight of the rinse-off composition) of an inulin-type fructan defined in any one of claims 6 to 12, water and one or more other components constituted by one or more ingredients in conventional amounts of conventional cosmetic rinse-off compositions, with the exception of (i) cationic polymeric conditioning agents, (ii) terpolymers as defined in claim 1, and (iii) polysaccharides that are different from inulin-type fructan.

17. Cosmetic rinse-off composition according to claim 16, characterised in that the rinse-off composition is also free from monosaccharides and from di- and oligosaccharides that are different from inulin-type fructan, apart from the mono- and disaccharides that naturally occur in inulin-type fructan.

18. Cosmetic rinse-off composition according to claim 16 or claim 17, characterised in that it the inulin-type fructan is oligofructose.

19. Cosmetic rinse-off composition according to claim 16 or claim 17, characterised in that it the inulin-type fructan is inulin.

20. Cosmetic rinse-off composition according to claim 19, characterised in that the inulin has a DP ranging from 2 to 100.

21. Cosmetic rinse-off composition according to claim 20, characterised in that it the inulin-type fructan is selected from the group consisting of chicory inulin, agave inulin, dahlia inulin and Jerusalem artichoke inulin.